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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/538,614

Applicant(s)

THELEN ET AL.

Examiner

JAMES LEIJA

Art Unit

2423

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01/23/2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/23/2007.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 8, 12-14, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laksono et al (US 2006/0161947), and further in view of Eldering et al (US2003/0149975) .

As per claim 1 Laksono teaches a method of operating a broadcasting system (1), in which various program contents are sent to the users of the broadcasting system and specific users of the broadcasting system are at the same time assigned to specific user communities, and community-specific program contents (PI.sub.G) are automatically selected and/or generated from a plurality of available program contents (PI) for the users of each of the different user communities, characterized in that

a user is assigned to a user community (Laksono page 3 [0027], figures 3 and 4 illustrates that users are designated as type A, B or C which reads assigned to a user community)

Laksono is silent on the basis of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) sent by the user and

Eldering teaches on the basis of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) sent by the user and (Eldering pages 9-10 [0122] lines 13-16, and page 11 [0132]-[0134] illustrates the input

for ad selections are the users inputted preferences which reads on a community assignment signal sent by the user)

Laksono is silent on that certain user-specific program contents (PI.sub.N) are automatically generated and/or selected in order to compile an individual user-specific program (NSP) for each of the individual users, and that

Eldering teaches that certain user-specific program contents (PI.sub.N) are automatically generated and/or selected in order to compile an individual user-specific program (NSP) for each of the individual users, and that (Eldering page 6, 7 [0091], [0100] describes the user ordering VOD content which reads on user-specific program content selected for an individual user-specific program. And Fig 3 and 4 illustrate that multiple users order VOD content.)

community-specific program contents (PI.sub.G) of a user community to which the user in question is assigned (Laksono page 3 [0027], figures 3-4 illustrates commercials for each type of user) are integrated into the user program. (Laksono fig 4 illustrates the community program content in the same stream as the users programming.)

Laksono is silent on user-specific program

Eldering teaches user-specific program (Eldering page 7 [0100] describes the user ordering VOD content which reads on user-specific program content).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the assignment to a user community of Laksono by on the basis of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) sent by the user as taught by Eldering in order to place users on lists that provide audience specific messages.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono by certain user-specific program contents (PI.sub.N) are automatically generated and/or selected in order to compile an individual user-specific program (NSP) for each of the individual users as taught by Eldering in order to provide video-on-demand services, which allows the user to view video programming when the time is convenient for themselves.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the user program of Laksono by user-specific program as taught by Eldering in order to provide video-on-demand services, which allows the user to view video programming when the time is convenient for themselves.

As per claim 8 Laksono and Eldering teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that

Laksono teaches program content (PI.sub.Z) is integrated into the user-specific program (NSP) of at least some of the users of this user community. (Laksono fig 4 broadcast 80 has programming 72, 76, and 80)

Laksono is silent on receiving a program content (PI.sub.Z) sent by a user of a user community or a broadcast proposal signal assigned to a specific program content, the relevant program content (PI.sub.Z) of at least some of the users

Eldering teaches on receiving a program content (PI.sub.Z) sent by a user of a user community or a broadcast proposal signal assigned to a specific program content, the relevant program content (PI.sub.Z) of at least some of the users (Eldering page 6, 7 [0091], [0100])

describes the user ordering VOD content which reads on a broadcast proposal signal assigned to a specific program content.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono receiving a program content (PI.sub.Z) sent by a user of a user community or a broadcast proposal signal assigned to a specific program content, the relevant program content (PI.sub.Z) of at least some of the users a user as taught by Eldering in order to provide video-on-demand services, which allows the user to view video programming when the time is convenient for themselves.

As per claim 12 Laksono and Eldering teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the

community-specific program contents (PI.sub.G) pertaining to a specific user community are integrated into the user-specific program (NSP) of the user within time intervals defined by the respective user. (Laksono page 4 [0038] lines 9-15 describes that the user has options detailing the time in which the audience messages are viewed, which reads on time intervals defined by the respective user.)

As per claim 13 Laksono and Eldering teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the

community-specific program contents (PI.sub.G) for a specific user community are automatically integrated into the user-specific programs (NSP) of the various users of the user community in question (Laksono figures 3 and 4)

taking into account the time intervals defined by each of the users in such a way that these community-specific program contents are scheduled with the minimum possible time intervals between them in the user-specific programs of the individual users of the user community. (Laksono page 4 [0038] lines 9-15 describes that the user has options which detail the time interval in which the audience messages are viewed, which reads on scheduled with the minimum possible time intervals)

As per claim 14 Laksono teaches a broadcasting system (1) having a plurality of transmission channels (T.sub.1 to T.sub.n, K.sub.1 to K.sub.n) for sending program contents (PI) to terminals (N.sub.1 to N.sub.n, 25) of users of the broadcasting system (1), a number of program content sources (5, 6, 27, 32, 33), at least one user community control unit (10, 29), which assigns specific users to specific user communities, and at least one program compilation unit (7, 13) for selecting and/or generating community-specific program contents (PI.sub.G) for each of the user communities, to which the respective users are assigned, from a plurality of available program contents (PI), characterized in that the broadcasting system has

Laksono teaches that the user community control unit (10, 29) is designed in such a way that a user is assigned to a user community (Laksono fig 1 headend 12 and message database 25, page 2 [0020]-[0021])

Laksono is silent on the basis of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) sent by the user, and means for the entry of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) by the individual users

Eldering teaches the basis of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) sent by the user, and (Eldering pages 9-10 [0122] lines 13-16, and page 11 [0132]-[0134] illustrates the input for ad selections are the users inputted preferences which reads on a community assignment signal sent by the user)

means for the entry of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) by the individual users, (Eldering fig 5 element 510 is a set-box the user uses to input preference, reads on means for the entry of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) by the individual users), (Eldering pages 9-10 [0122] lines 13-16, and page 11 [0132]-[0134])

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the assignment to a user community of Laksono by on the basis of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) sent by the user, and means for the entry of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) by the individual users as taught by Eldering in order to place users on lists that provide audience specific messages.

Laksono is silent on that the program compilation unit (7, 13) is set up in such a way that certain user-specific program contents (PI.sub.N) are generated and/or selected in order to compile individual user-specific programs (NSP) for each of the various users,

Eldering teaches that the program compilation unit (7, 13) (Eldering fig 5 media server 530) is set up in such a way that certain user-specific program contents (PI.sub.N) are generated and/or selected in order to compile individual user-specific programs (NSP) for each of the various users, (Eldering fig 7 page 7 [0100]-[0101], page 14 [0161]), (Eldering page 6, 7 [0091], [0100] describes the user ordering VOD content which reads on user-specific program content

selected for an individual user-specific program. And Fig 3 and 4 illustrate that multiple users order VOD content.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono by the program compilation unit (7, 13) is set up in such a way that certain user-specific program contents (PI.sub.N) are generated and/or selected in order to compile individual user-specific programs (NSP) for each of the various users as taught by Eldering in order to provide video-on-demand services, which allows the user to view video programming when the time is convenient for themselves.

Laksono teaches whilst community-specific program contents (PI.sub.G) of user communities to which the user in question is assigned are integrated into the respective user programs.(Laksono fig 3 and 4 illustrate that audience messages and programming are combined into a single stream)

Laksono is silent on user-specific programs

Eldering teaches user-specific program (Eldering page 7 [0100] describes the user ordering VOD content which reads on user-specific program content).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the user programs of Laksono by user-specific program as taught by Eldering in order to provide video-on-demand services, which allows the user to view video programming when the time is convenient for themselves.

As per claim 21 Laksono and Eldering teach a broadcasting system as claimed in claim 14, characterized by

means (18) allowing the relevant user to predefine specific time intervals within a user-specific program (NSP) for the community-specific program contents (PI.sub.G), and (Laksono page 4 [0038] lines 9-18 describes the user device as allowing the user to choose option detailing time intervals of the ads)

a program scheduler (4, 16), which synchronizes the integration of community-specific program contents (PI.sub.G) into the user-specific programs (NSP) of the users of a specific user community (Laksono fig 1, 3 and 4 illustrate the programs streams which have been integrated, from the head end 12, for the programs and audience messages to be integrated together the headend has to inherently synchronize the content.)

taking into account the time intervals assigned by each of the individual users of the user community in question in such a way that identical community-specific program contents (PI.sub.G) are scheduled with the minimum possible time intervals between them in the user-specific programs (NSP) of the various users of the user community. (Laksono page 4 [0038] lines 9-15 describes that the user has options which detail the time interval in which the audience messages are viewed, which reads on scheduled time intervals. Page 3 [0028] describes the users of each type a, b or c only receive that type of audience message which reads on the identical community-specific program contents)

Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laksono et al (US 2006/0161947), and further in view of Eldering et al (US2003/0149975) and Reto (USPN7603683)

As per claim 2 Laksono and Eldering teach a method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that

Laksono is silent on a community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GA) for a specific user community is first sent to the user and

on receiving a positive response signal (S.sub.GZ) the user is assigned to the user community

Reto teaches a community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GA) for a specific user community is first sent to the user and (Reto column 17 lines 4-39 describes sending an group invitation to a user)

on receiving a positive response signal (S.sub.GZ) the user is assigned to the user community. (Reto column 17 lines 40-49 describes accepting the invitation)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono by a community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GA) for a specific user community is first sent to the user and on receiving a positive response signal (S.sub.GZ) the user is assigned to the user community as taught by Reto in order to provide users with the ability to share and watch the same content.

As per claim 3 Laksono, Eldering and Reto teach a method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that

Laksono teaches a profile conformity value is determined on the basis of a comparison between a user profile (NP) assigned to a user and a community profile (GP) assigned to a user community and on attainment of a specific conformity threshold (Laksono page 1 [0017] lines 1-8 describes comparing profiles of users to profiles of audience messages, and determining that they match sufficiently reads on a profile conformity value is determined on the basis of a comparison)

Laksono is silent on the community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GA) for the relevant user community is sent to the user in question.

Reto teaches the community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GA) for the relevant user community is sent to the user in question. (Reto column 17 lines 4-49 describes inviting a user into a group)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono by the community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GA) for the relevant user community is sent to the user in question as taught by Reto in order to provide users with the ability to accept or decline group involvement.

As per claim 4 Laksono, Eldering and Reto teach a method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that

Laksono silent on the user behavior of a user is analyzed and the community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GA) for the relevant user community is sent to the relevant user as a function of the user behavior.

Herz teaches the user behavior of a user is analyzed and (Herz column 87 lines 40-67, column 88 lines 38-51) the community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GA) for the relevant user community is sent to the relevant user as a function of the user behavior. (Herz column 88 lines 38-51)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono by the user behavior of a user is analyzed and the community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GA) for the relevant user community is sent to the relevant user as a function of the user behavior as taught by Herz in order to provide groups recommendations of peers with similar interests to the user.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laksono et al (US 2006/0161947), and further in view of Eldering et al (US2003/0149975) and Herz (USPN 6029195)

As per claim 5 Laksono and Eldering teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that in order

Laksono is silent on to form a new user community user profiles (NP) of different users are compared with one another and/or with a provisional community profile (GP) and on the basis of this comparison users are identified whose user profiles (NP), having regard to at least one criterion, exhibit a predetermined degree of profile conformity with one another and/or with the provisional community profile (GP), and a community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GZ) for a corresponding user community is then sent to each of the users concerned.

Herz teaches to form a new user community user profiles (NP) of different users are compared with one another and/or with a provisional community profile (GP) and on the basis of this comparison users are identified whose user profiles (NP), having regard to at least one criterion, exhibit a predetermined degree of profile conformity with one another and/or with the provisional community profile (GP), and (Herz column 87 lines 41-67, and column 88 lines 38-41 describes creating a new virtual community, which in which the all the users have similar interests) a community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GZ) for a corresponding user community is then sent to each of the users concerned. (Herz column 88 lines 38-51 describes inviting the users into the new group)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono by to form a new user community user profiles (NP) of different users are compared with one another and/or with a provisional community profile (GP) and on the basis of this comparison users are identified whose user profiles (NP), having regard to at least one criterion, exhibit a predetermined degree of profile conformity with one another and/or with the provisional community profile (GP), and a community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GZ) for a corresponding user community is then sent to each of the users concerned as taught by Reto in order to provide users with the ability to accept or decline group involvement.

Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laksono et al (US 2006/0161947), and further in view of Eldering et al (US2003/0149975) and Huitema et al (USPN 7068789)

As per claim 6 Laksono and Eldering teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that

Laksono is silent on a new user community is formed on receiving a user community establishment signal (S.sub.NK) from a user.

Huitema teaches a new user community is formed on receiving a user community establishment signal (S.sub.NK) from a user. (Huitema fig 2 column 11 line 52 to column 12 line 18)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono a new user community is formed on receiving a user community establishment signal (S.sub.NK) from a user as taught by Reto in order to provide users with the ability to maintain a group without the groups creator.

As per claim 7 Laksono, Eldering and Huitema teach a method as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that

a community admission inquiry signal (S.sub.GA) for a specific user community is sent to a user by a community representative (GR) or at the instigation of the community representative (GR) (Huitema fig 3 and 4 column 12 lines 33-45, 46-67 describes the group creator inviting members)

and/or that a user is assigned to the user community on the basis of a community assignment signal (S.sub.GZ) sent from the user in question only with the prior approval of the community representative (GR).

Claims 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laksono et al (US 2006/0161947), and further in view of Eldering et al (US2003/0149975) and Oko et al (USPN 6947966)

As per claim 9 Laksono and Eldering teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that

Laksono is silent on an assessment inquiry signal (S.sub.BA) assigned to a program content (PI.sub.R) is sent to the users of a user community who have received this specific program content (PI.sub.R), in order to prompt the users to send assessment data (BD) for this program content (PI), and

a community preference value (W.sub.GP) is determined on the basis of the assessment data (BD) returned by the users.

Oko teaches an assessment inquiry signal (S.sub.BA) assigned to a program content (PI.sub.R) is sent to the users of a user community who have received this specific program content (PI.sub.R), (Oko column 7 lines 28-62 fig 3 illustrates polling viewers to vote)

in order to prompt the users to send assessment data (BD) for this program content (PI), and a community preference value (W.sub.GP) is determined on the basis of the assessment data (BD) returned by the users. (Oko column 9 lines 1-14 describes the viewers are part of a group and stats are viewed which reads on a community preference value), (Oko column 5 lines 25-57 illustrates that the votes have weight reads on a value.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono an assessment inquiry signal (S.sub.BA) assigned to a program content (PI.sub.R) is sent to the users of a user community who have received this specific program content (PI.sub.R), in order to prompt the users to send assessment data (BD) for this program content (PI), and a community preference value (W.sub.GP) is determined on the basis of the assessment data (BD) returned by the users a user as taught by Oko in order to provide communities to be able to influence network programming.

As per claim 10 Laksono and Eldering teaches a method as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that as

Laksono and Eldering teaches the relevant program content (PI.sub.R) is integrated into the user-specific programs (NSP) (Laksono fig 4 illustrates audience messages combined with programming.)

Laksono is silent on a function of the community preference value (W.sub.GP) the relevant program content (PI.sub.R) of at least some of the users of the user community in question

Oko teaches a function of the community preference value (W.sub.GP) the relevant program content (PI.sub.R) of at least some of the users of the user community in question. (Oko column 8 line 65 to column 9 line 14 describes the stats of the program being voted on is voted on by a community of users)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono by a function of the community

preference value (W.sub.GP) the relevant program content (PI.sub.R) of at least some of the users of the user community in question as taught by Oka in order to provide communities to be able to influence network programming.

As per claim 11 Laksono and Eldering teaches a method as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that

an assessment inquiry signal (S.sub.BA) for a specific program content (PI.sub.R) is sent to the relevant users of a user community on receiving a survey request signal (S.sub.UA) from a user of this user community. (Oka column 4 line 56-60 describes the user has to register in order to vote on programming, registering reads on a receiving a survey request signal (S.sub.UA) from a user)

Claims 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laksono et al (US 2006/0161947), and further in view of Eldering et al (US2003/0149975) and Herz (USPN 6088722)

As per claim 15 Laksono and Eldering teach a broadcasting system as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that

Laksono is silent on the broadcasting system (1) comprises feedback channels (R) from each of the user terminals (N.sub.1 to N.sub.n, 25) to a central control unit (2, 28) of the broadcasting system (1).

Herz ('722) teaches the broadcasting system (1) comprises feedback channels (R) from each of the user terminals (N.sub.1 to N.sub.n, 25) to a central control unit (2, 28) of the broadcasting system (1). (Herz fig 5 and 6 illustrates feedback 624 column 44 lines 15-23)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono by the broadcasting system (1) comprises feedback channels (R) from each of the user terminals (N.sub.1 to N.sub.n, 25) to a central control unit (2, 28) of the broadcasting system (1) as taught by Herz ('722) in order to keep an updated user profile, thereby providing the user with the programming of interest to the user.

As per claim 16 Laksono and Eldering teach a broadcasting system as claimed in claim 15, characterized in that the user community control unit (10) and/or the program compilation unit (7) are arranged inside the central control unit (2) of the broadcasting system (1). (Eldering fig 5 media server 530 inside network side 500 page 7 [0098])

As per claim 17 Laksono and Eldering teach a broadcasting system as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that

Laksono is silent on the user terminals (25) each have a user community control unit and/or a program compilation unit (13).

Herz ('722) teaches the user terminals (25) each have a user community control unit and/or a program compilation unit (13). (Herz '722 fig 9 column 46 line 50 to column 47 line 18 describes the user's set-top box processor as determining virtual channels which reads on program compilation unit)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono by the user terminals (25) each have a user community control unit and/or a program compilation unit (13) as taught by Herz ('722) in order to provide recommended programming.

As per claim 18 Laksono and Eldering teach a broadcasting system as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that

Laksono is silent on the central control unit (2, 28) of the broadcasting system (1) has means of sending system control data to a user terminal (N.sub.1 to N.sub.n, 25).

Herz '722 teaches the central control unit (2, 28) of the broadcasting system (1) has means of sending system control data to a user terminal (N.sub.1 to N.sub.n, 25). (Herz column 46 line 50-65)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono by the central control unit (2, 28) of the

broadcasting system (1) has means of sending system control data to a user terminal (N.sub.1 to N.sub.n, 25) as taught by Herz (*722) in order to create recommended programming to the user.

Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Laksono et al (US 2006/0161947), and further in view of Eldering et al (US2003/0149975) and Matz et al (US 2005/0096920)

As per claim 19 Laksono and Eldering teach a broadcasting system as claimed in claim 14, characterized by

Laksono is silent on means of analysis (2, 28) for compiling user profiles (NP) on the basis of user information and/or for compiling community profiles (GP) for a user community on the basis of the user profiles (NP) of the users of this user community.

Matz teaches means of analysis (2, 28) for compiling user profiles (NP) on the basis of user information (Matz fig 1 merge processor 104, fig 2 step 202, 212 page 4 [0044])

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono means of analysis (2, 28) for compiling user profiles (NP) on the basis of user information as taught by Matz in order to provide content providers with reports of what programming is being watched.

As per claim 20 Laksono and Eldering teach a broadcasting system as claimed in claim 14, characterized by

Laksono is silent means of analysis (8, 24) for compiling contents profiles (IP) for the program contents available, and

Matz teaches means of analysis (8, 24) for compiling contents profiles (IP) for the program contents available, and (Matz fig 1 merge processor 104, fig 2 step 204, 206, 208, 210, 212 page 5 [0055] and fig 3b)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Laksono means of analysis (8, 24) for compiling contents profiles (IP) for the program contents available, and as taught by Matz in order to provide content providers with reports of what programming is being watched.

a program content selection unit (9, 23) for selecting program contents (PI) for a specific user on the basis of a comparison between the contents profiles (IP) and a user profile (NP) of the relevant user (Laksono page 2-3 [0021], [0027]-[0028], fig 3 and 4 illustrate that multiple user profiles and multiple content profiles are compared for the determination of placing users into user types, and which reads on program selection)

and/or a community profile (GP) of a user community to which the user is assigned.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES LEIJA whose telephone number is (571)270-5249. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 730 am to 5pm est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, ANDREW Y. KOENIG can be reached on (571) 272-7296. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/J. L./
Examiner, Art Unit 2423

/Annan Q Shang/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2424